
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET HEARING — DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Budget Hearing. On November 28, 2017, Governor Kim Reynolds held a budget hearing for the Department of Public Safety (DPS). Commissioner Roxann Ryan presented the Department's FY 2019 General Fund status quo budget request of \$100.1 million as summarized in an earlier [Fiscal Update Article](#). This request includes \$5.0 million (no change from the amount appropriated by the FY 2018 Standing Appropriations Act) for the State of Iowa Peace Officers' Retirement, Accident, and Disability System.

During the presentation, Commissioner Ryan highlighted some of the activities of the DPS, including:

- Promoting highway safety through different initiatives, including a summit on drowsy driving.
- Making progress on the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS), which is expected to be operational in calendar year 2018.
- Training over 200 law enforcement (LE) officers, receiving over 60 tips from local LE departments, and focusing on intelligence gathering through the Human Trafficking Office.
- Participating in special events such as the Iowa State Fair, RAGBRAI, and the Solheim Cup (which was held in West Des Moines in 2017).

Challenges that the DPS has faced include:

- Implementing the legislation legalizing fireworks usage in Iowa in a short amount of time.
- An increase of 854.0% in the number of cyber tips received in the last year.
- Methamphetamine usage continuing to be the main drug problem in Iowa, with purity levels in the 90th percentile, while marijuana trafficking is trending upwards and opioid usage is also increasing.
- An emerging trend of death investigations increasing in both the number and complexity, with cases often involving multiple victims and/or multiple offenders.

Department Request. In addition to the \$100.1 million General Fund request for FY 2019, the DPS is requesting:

- \$10.2 million from the Gaming Enforcement Revolving Fund. This is \$1.1 million less than the FY 2018 appropriation due to FY 2017 one-time funding for Gaming Enforcement Special Agent radios.
- \$4.1 million from the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF) for the fourth year of the ISICS lease payment.
- \$740,000 from the RIIF for replacement of electronic control devices (Tasers).
- \$125,000 from the Technology Reinvestment Fund (TRF) for crime scene processing equipment to be used by the Division of Criminal Investigation's Crime Laboratory.
- \$860,000 from the TRF to replace radios used by DPS investigators.

LSA Staff Contact: Alice Fulk Wisner (515.281.6764) alice.wisner@legis.iowa.gov
Laura Book (515.725.0509) laura.book@legis.iowa.gov